

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Appl. No.

09/674,101

Applicant

Kanerva et al

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Examiner

Elahee, MD S.

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Technology Center 2600

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of December 22nd, 2003, Applicant submits the following:

Amendments to the Specification: None.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings: None.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.

Appendix: None.

Applicant believes that the filing of this paper is within the allotted shortened statutory period for reply. However, should the undersigned attorney be mistaken, please consider this a petition for an extension of time that may be required to maintain the pendency of this patent application, and charge Deposit Account No. 50-1924 for any required fee deficiency.